

HONORING MARK G. SKLARZ 2014  
RECIPIENT OF THE TORCH OF  
LIBERTY AWARD

**HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 29, 2014*

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, today, friends, family and colleagues will gather to pay tribute to one of our community's most outstanding citizens. I am proud to stand today and join the Connecticut Anti-Defamation League as they honor Mark G. Sklarz with the 2014 Greater New Haven Torch of Liberty Award.

Our communities would not be the same without the efforts of individuals whose work benefits our families and neighborhoods. Each year, the Connecticut Anti-Defamation League presents the prestigious Torch of Liberty Award to an outstanding leader in the community, recognizing their unique commitment and dedication. Mark is a remarkable reflection of the spirit of community service. With extraordinary compassion and generosity, he has touched the lives of many throughout the Greater New Haven community.

A partner in the Corporate and Business Law Department of Day Pitney, LLP, Mark is an active member of the New Haven County and Connecticut Bar Associations, serving as vice chair of the Business Law Section of the CBA as well as a member of the organization's Executive Committees of the Business Law and Tax Sections. He was a longtime member of the Connecticut Bar Examining Committee, a twenty-four member committee charged with the responsibility of determining whether candidates are qualified to be admitted to the Connecticut bar. Mark was also a member of the Business Taxation and Real Estate, Probate, and Trust Law Sections of the American Bar Association. He has enjoyed great success in his professional career, earning a distinguished reputation among his colleagues and the community alike.

Mark has made many invaluable contributions through his professional career, however, it has been through his personal service to our community that he has made a real difference and touched the lives of many. Chairman and Past President of the Board of the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven, President of First City Fund Corporation, past president of Congregation Mishkan Israel and the Jewish Community Center of Greater New Haven, as well as a past member of the Board of Trustees of the Hopkins School in New Haven, he has left an indelible mark on our community. Mark's extraordinary generosity and compassion is reflected in the myriad of awards and honors he has received including the Hopkins School Medal for distinguished service and the Gold Ring award from the New Haven Boys Club Alumni Association.

It is my honor and privilege to stand today to join his wife, Judy, their children, Jeff and his wife Karen and Rick and his wife Cambra, as well as the Connecticut Anti-Defamation League and the New Haven community in paying tribute to Mark G. Sklarz for his invaluable contributions. Every community should be so fortunate as to have such a selfless, dedicated individual who so willingly commits his time and energy to enriching the community and improving the quality of life for all.

HONORING MS. DOLORES M.  
BOJAZI

**HON. ROBERT A. BRADY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 29, 2014*

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the accomplishments of Ms. Dolores M. Bojazi. A graduate of Temple Law School, Ms. Bojazi began her career working to aid battered women and union workers, and she continues to advocate for important causes in her career as an attorney.

Ms. Bojazi is an accomplished attorney who began her career as an advocacy coordinator at Women Against Abuse. While there, she trained the Philadelphia Police Force in legal response procedure and proposed an appeal procedure for emergency protection orders, which was adopted into law in 1988. She continued her advocacy work as a union organizer for the United Auto Workers, where she represented the union at the National Labor Relations Board. Ms. Bojazi then began working as a Public Defender in the Philadelphia Defender Association, and later worked in the Burlington and Camden Public Defenders Office. She has also worked at Freedman and Lorry and Mattleman, Weinroth, and Miller. Ms. Bojazi currently practices law in her own office where she focuses on criminal and family law. Ms. Bojazi will be honored by the Marian Anderson Historical Society on May 31, 2014.

I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring Ms. Bojazi for her countless years of dedication to improving the lives of those in Pennsylvania's First District. She has and continues to work tirelessly in her advocacy to help others in Philadelphia.

**ANTHONY EDWARDS TRIBUTE**

**HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 29, 2014*

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Mr. Anthony Edwards. Mr. Edwards, the sole proprietor at San Juan Law Office, LLC, in Silverton will be appointed County Court Judge for San Juan County Sixth Judicial District on July 1, 2014.

An Oklahoma native, Mr. Edwards moved to Silverton, Colorado, in 1999. Mr. Edwards holds a Masters of Water Resources from University of New Mexico, and a Business and Technology degree from Capella University. Prior to attending Law School at the University of New Mexico, where he graduated in 2010, Mr. Edwards promoted economic development in San Juan County. He is the co-founder of Crowdfunding Offerings, Ltd., an online platform to facilitate small investments in startup enterprises in Colorado.

Mr. Edwards has also served his community with his business expertise, serving on a number of development and consulting committees to assist the business community in business planning, civil matter, securing financing, and in real estate matters. As the Owner's Representative for San Juan School District, he led the project to renovate two of Silverton's School buildings, which received the Leader-

ship in Energy and Efficiency Design Gold certification, the only K-12 public school to attain this status. Mr. Edwards' dedication to improving and expanding his community has greatly contributed to the State of Colorado, and his service will continue to be an asset as he fills his role as Judge for San Juan County's Sixth Judicial District.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Mr. Anthony Edwards for his work and congratulate him on his judicial appointment.

**RECOGNIZING NORMAN RICE ON  
THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT**

**HON. ADAM SMITH**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 29, 2014*

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, it is with profound gratitude that I rise to congratulate Norman B. Rice on his retirement after a distinguished tenure as President of The Seattle Foundation. Norm has contributed immeasurably to the Seattle community through a variety of roles over the last forty years.

First elected to the Seattle City Council in 1978, Norm went on to serve on the Council for eleven years. Throughout his tenure, he was a champion for the marginalized, including fighting for the passage of the Women and Minority Business Enterprise Ordinance.

After winning the 1989 mayoral election, Norm became the first African-American mayor in Seattle's history. His two terms were characterized by his drive to create a thriving Seattle that worked for all of its citizens. Norm's initiatives as mayor included rejuvenating downtown, enhancing Seattle's public school system, and developing public-private partnerships to serve Seattle's homeless population. His service as mayor has left a legacy that will endure well into the future.

Since the conclusion of his tenure as an elected official, Norm has continued to work tirelessly for the well-being of the Seattle area. Since June of 2009, he has held the position of CEO of the Seattle Foundation. As a leader of one of the largest community foundations in the nation, Norm has been praised for his commitment to community development and his ability to build consensus.

Norm has used these skills on the national stage as well, serving a two year appointment on the White House's Council for Community Solutions. Norm's service has benefited many individuals and families, both in Seattle and across the country. His vision for just communities and selfless commitment to public service has left a legacy for future generations to follow.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great admiration that I rise to recognize Norman B. Rice. We all owe him the utmost gratitude and respect, and I wish him well in all future endeavors.

**HONORING MS. AUDREY R.  
JOHNSON-THORNTON**

**HON. ROBERT A. BRADY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 29, 2014*

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the accomplishments of my

friend, Ms. Audrey R. Johnson-Thornton. Ms. Johnson-Thornton is the president and founder of the American Women's Heritage Society, and was instrumental in turning the broken down Belmont Mansion into a museum to honor those who aided slaves in their flight to freedom.

The Belmont Mansion was named as the most significant structure to be at risk in an assessment of ten historic structures in Fairmount Park in Philadelphia. This finding was followed by a historical study and architectural analysis of the Belmont Mansion Historical Structures Report and then became the first major project of the Fairmount Park Historic Preservation Trust in 1994. The Underground Railroad Museum at Belmont Mansion is one of the first 2,000 recipients to receive funding from the Institute of Museum and Library Services and its partner the American Association for State and Local History. The American Women's Heritage Society still operates the now restored mansion as a historic site. Ms. Johnson-Thornton will be honored by the Marian Anderson Historical Society on May 31, 2014.

It is a privilege to recognize a person whose leadership and commitment to preserving our city's history has enriched the lives of countless individuals. I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in commending Ms. Johnson-Thornton for her lifetime of service and dedication to Pennsylvania's First Congressional District.

RECOGNIZING PRESENCE MERCY  
MEDICAL CENTER'S SAFETY AND  
SECURITY DEPARTMENT

**HON. BILL FOSTER**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 29, 2014*

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Safety and Security Department of Presence Mercy Medical Center in Aurora, Illinois. Safety and security is a growing concern for healthcare facilities, and Presence Mercy Medical Center has responded by preparing their security team to prevent crimes before they begin and respond to criminal activity promptly.

The 2012 Crime and Security Trends Survey conducted by the International Association for Healthcare Security and Safety (IAHSS) highlights the increasing dangers healthcare workers face. The survey found that in 2012 there were over 20,500 crimes committed in healthcare facilities, a 37 percent rise from 2010.

The Safety and Security Department at Presence Mercy Medical Center has responded to these recent developments by exposing their security officers to comprehensive training and preparation programs. All of their department's members have studied, tested, and received certification in Basic Training by the IAHSS, 92 percent have received Advanced certification, and 83 percent have received Supervisor certification.

These efforts have made Presence Mercy a model security team at a time when healthcare safety and security is a significantly mounting concern.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Safety and Security Depart-

ment members for their excellence in safety and security preparation:

Doug Kaiser; Robert Lea; Christian Pfister; Darin Northern; Jim Rees; Victor Jimenez; Miguel Saenz; Kerry Haggard; Tom Greiner; David Oliver; Nora Rodriguez.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2014  
SERVICE ACADEMY APPOINTEES  
FROM THE 21ST CONGRESSIONAL  
DISTRICT OF TEXAS

**HON. LAMAR SMITH**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 29, 2014*

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the 2014 Service Academy appointees from the 21st Congressional District of Texas.

The following individuals have accepted academy appointments:

Lois May Agabon, MacArthur High School, Northwestern Preparatory School, United States Air Force Academy; Austin Wayne Beals, Fredericksburg High School, United States Air Force Academy; David Phillip Castaneda, San Antonio Christian High School, Naval Academy Preparatory School, United States Naval Academy; Jonathan Castaneda, San Antonio Christian High School, United States Naval Academy; Sterling Michael Clark, Canyon High School, United States Naval Academy; Conner Hugh Drum, Canyon Lake High School, Greystone Preparatory School at Schreiner University, United States Military Academy; Devlin Patrick Gilligan, Claudia Taylor "Lady Bird" Johnson High School, United States Air Force Academy; Preston Joseph Horejsi, Medina High School, United States Military Academy; Aldon William Clifford Pagio, AFNorth International High School (the Netherlands), University of Texas at San Antonio, United States Merchant Marine Academy; Jackson Symon Parrish, Saint Mary's Hall, United States Naval Academy; Travis John Phelan, John S. Burke Catholic School (New York), United States Military Academy; James Cooper Rast, Claudia Taylor "Lady Bird" Johnson High School, United States Air Force Academy; Jordan Gregory Sekula, New Braunfels Christian Academy, United States Merchant Marine Academy; and Collin Taylor Stone, Alamo Heights High School, United States Military Academy.

Again, congratulations to these outstanding students. I know they will serve our country well and I trust success will follow them in all their endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. DONNA F. EDWARDS**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 29, 2014*

Ms. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, due to attending a previously scheduled event in Maryland, I was absent from votes in the House on Monday evening, May 19 and missed rollcall votes 218–219. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on both rollcall No. 218, H.R. 2203, and No. 219, H.R. 685.

INTRODUCTION OF THE RURAL  
WIND ENERGY EXPANSION ACT  
OF 2014

**HON. EARL BLUMENAUER**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 29, 2014*

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing the "Rural Wind Energy Development Act," to provide an investment tax credit to ranchers, farmers, and small businesses to offset the up-front costs of owning a distributed wind turbine. I am pleased to again be working with my friend Congressman Cole of Oklahoma in offering this modest expansion of current law that will keep small business energy jobs growing across the United States.

Distributed wind systems are electric generators that produce up to 20 megawatts of clean and renewable energy for homes, farms, and small businesses. With these turbines, individuals can generate their own power, often independent from the electric grid. These wind turbines allow farmers, ranchers, and other consumers to cut their energy bills and, at times, sell power back into the grid. They also allow thousands of businesses—from "mom and pop" stores, to retailers, to ranches, and to breweries—to reduce their energy load, to help clean the environment, and to save money. All you need is pretty good wind and a little land.

At best there has been unsteady federal support for distributed wind systems and there has been no federal tax support until the past several years.

In many cases, this is not only American produced electricity, but American manufactured electricity as well. Approximately 90 percent of distributed wind turbines sold in the U.S. are made here, according to domestic manufacturing content.

My bill also supports locally owned, or "community," wind power. The Department of Energy's national laboratories estimate that community wind generates a strong economic multiplier for local communities, helping rural areas rebound from challenging economic times.

The federal Production Tax Credit, PTC, applies mainly to large utility-scale wind projects, not to individuals who install their own wind systems for on-site power. The existing investment credit, which may be taken in lieu of the PTC, has worked very well. My legislation provides an additional option and bars taking a double-benefit from these tax supports. This additional tool will provide stability and certainty for the distributed wind market to unlock the necessary investment to grow our global leadership role in distributed wind power. It will also help farmers, consumers, and businesses afford pollution-free energy.

This legislation strikes the existing 100 kilowatt nameplate limitation for small wind systems, and expands the maximum wind turbine size to 20 megawatts, in line with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission definition of distributed wind power. Other agencies depend on this figure as a cut off between smaller-scale or "community" wind power and larger wind farms. There is no similar cap for solar, and, as the community wind industry grows and produces jobs, so should the opportunity for projects that still meet the threshold for distributed wind.